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SOUTHERN D	ISTRICT OF NEW YORK
VOSS OF NORWAY, ASA; VOSS PRODUCTIONS, AS; VOSS USA, INC.; ENERGY GROUP, AS and, G ENERGY, INC.,	JAN 14 U.S.D.C.
Plaintiffs,) Civil Action No. 07 Civ. 7649 (LLS)
v.	
REVTECH, INC. and)
DECO PATENTS, INC.,)
Defendants.	Ć

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT OF PATENT INVALIDITY AND NON-INFRINGEMENT, FOR DECLARATION OF TRADEMARK NON-INFRINGEMENT, FOR DECLARATION OF RIGHTS UNDER LICENSE AGREEMENT AND FOR TORTIOUS INTERFERENCE WITH BUSINESS RELATIONS

Pursuant to Rule 15(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure VOSS OF

NORWAY ASA, VOSS PRODUCTION AS; VOSS USA, INC.; ENERGY GROUP AS;
and G ENERGY, INC. (collectively "Voss"), by and through their attorneys, hereby file
this Second Amended Complaint. Voss brings this action pursuant to Rule 57 of the
Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and 28 U.S.C. §2201 for a declaratory judgment that the
patents asserted against Voss by Defendants are not infringed, and are unenforceable and
invalid. Since the original action was filed, Defendants have asserted that Voss and its

distributors/customers infringed two patents, U.S. Patent No. 6,093,455 entitled "Method and Composition for decorating glass" and U.S. Patent No. 6,136,382 entitled "Method and Compositions for decorating vitreous articles with radiation curable inks having improved adhesion and durability." Defendants assert not only that the Patents are infringed by virtue of the fact that Voss is purportedly not licensed, but also allege that the new bottle decorating process that Voss uses infringes the Patents.

Voss further brings this action for a declaratory judgment that Voss does not infringe Defendants' federally registered trademark, and that there is no breach of the License Agreement and Ink Purchasing Agreement ("the Agreements") between Voss of Norway ASA and Voss Productions AS, and RevTech, Inc. ("RevTech"). Voss also brings this Second Amended Complaint for damages and injunctive relief against Defendants for tortious interference with present and prospective business relations.

Nature of this Action

- 1. Voss contracted with RevTech for use of its patented technology relating to UV curable ink, which was Voss' sole method of labeling its distinctive bottles. The Agreements at issue in this action were entered into on December 17, 1999 and were set to expire on December 31, 2007.
- 2. In early 2006, more than a year before the scheduled expiration of the Agreements, Voss started the planning of an expansion and upgrade of its production facilities. Such expansion would include new state-of-the-art bottle labeling equipment to replace Voss' current equipment. As part of this process, Voss began evaluating new bottle labeling solutions in order to make an informed decision to either renew its Agreements with Defendant RevTech for an additional term and thereby continue using

Defendant's technology or utilize different technology from a new supplier. Defendant was fully informed of Voss' plans to evaluate competing technologies and took part in the evaluation process as one of several competing suppliers.

- 3. However, Defendant's conduct changed dramatically several months into the process. In mid April 2007, Defendant learned that Voss intended to purchase decorating machines from a new supplier, not from its existing supplier. Upon information and belief, Defendant interpreted Voss' decision as reducing its chances to become the decoration technology supplier on the new machines because it lacked a well established relationship with new supplier Kammann. At that point Defendant embarked on a calculated endeavor to keep Voss' business at all costs. Defendant has taken the position that under the terms of the Agreements it has the exclusive perpetual right to provide Voss with UV curable ink technology and if Voss decides not to use Defendant's technology, then it can not use anyone else's UV curable ink technology. Defendant has recognized that Voss may purchase its bottles pre-decorated from its bottle supplier, even if the bottle supplier uses the very same new machine and solution that Voss plans to install in-house. Defendant's interpretation is not supported by the Agreements and threatens the business and livelihood of Voss.
- 4. Defendant sent Voss a purported "Notice of Termination" of the Agreements on July 5, 2007.
- 5. The Agreements do NOT provide for automatic termination for a material breach. Instead, the Agreements have a notice and cure provision under which the party allegedly in breach of the Agreements is given notice of the alleged breach, and if the breach is cured within 20-days then there is no termination.

- 6. Voss responded fully, appropriately and timely to each and every allegation in the notice sent by Defendant in order to prevent termination. Despite Voss' response, Defendant, without any legal cause, purported to terminate the Agreements on July 25, 2007.
- 7. Since the purported termination, Defendant demanded that Voss cease using the only technology it had available for labeling its bottles and deliver to Defendant all of its inventory, and Defendant even demanded all undecorated bottles be delivered to it. Defendants have also asserted a patent and trademark infringement claim against Voss. Specifically, Defendants assert that Voss infringes U.S. Patent Nos. 6,093,455 and 6,136,382 by virtue of the fact that Voss is no longer licensed, and also that Voss' new bottle decorating process infringes those Patents. Defendants also assert that Voss is infringing U.S. Trademark Reg. No. 2453376.
- 8. An actual case and controversy exists because Voss disputes that the patents asserted are valid or infringed, that it has infringed the federally registered Mark, and also disputes that it has breached the Agreements and that termination is proper or has occurred. There is a substantial controversy between parties having an adverse legal interest of sufficient immediacy and reality to warrant relief.

Parties, Jurisdiction, and Venue

- 9. Plaintiff Voss of Norway ASA is a Norwegian corporation with its principal place of business located at Drammensveien 123, N-0277 Oslo, Norway.
- 10. Plaintiff Voss Production AS is a Norwegian company with its principal place of business located at Drammensveien 123, N-0277 Oslo, Norway.

- 11. Plaintiff Voss USA, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business located at 900 Broadway, Suite 1003, New York, New York 10003.
- 12. Plaintiff Energy Group AS is a Norwegian company with its principal place of business located at Drammensveien 123, N-0277 Oslo, Norway.
- 13. G Energy, Inc. is a New York corporation with its principal place of business located at 900 Broadway, Suite 1003, New York, New York 10003.
- 14. Upon information and belief, Defendant RevTech, Inc. is a Delaware corporation with a principal place of business located at 2147 State Route 27, Dock A, Edison, New Jersey 08818, USA.
- 15. Upon information and belief, Defendant Deco Patents, Inc. is an inactive Delaware corporation and wholly-owned by RevTech. Deco Patents is the owner by assignment of the patents at issue.
- 16. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants. Defendant RevTech, pursuant to Article 12.12 of the License Agreement, has consented and agreed to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts located in the City of New York, New York, USA. Moreover, should it be necessary, this Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants based upon New York's Long Arm statute. Deco Patents has agreed to personal jurisdiction in this Court.
- 17. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action under 28 U.S.C. §1331, §1338 and §2201 as this is a civil action arising under Acts of Congress relating to patents and trademarks. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1367.

18. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to Article 12.12(ii) of the License Agreement which provides in relevant part: "The parties consent and agree to the exclusive jurisdiction of, and each party hereto shall only commence an action or suit against the other party hereto or its Affiliates in, the state and federal courts located in the City of New York, New York, USA for the resolution of any dispute arising hereunder."

Factual Background

- 19. VOSS is internationally recognized as a premier leader in the highly competitive, high end bottled water market. VOSS water comes from an artesian aquifer in Southern Norway. The water coming from this artesian aquifer is recognized worldwide for its unmatched purity.
- 20. Voss utilizes unique packaging for its bottled water. For example VOSS bottles have a distinct elongated appearance, which is the subject of numerous trademark registrations in the US and elsewhere.
- 21. Voss' glass bottles were labeled using an ultra violet ("UV") curable ink applied to the glass. Defendant's UV technology was Voss' <u>sole</u> source for bottle labeling on its glass bottled products, the majority of its products.

The Agreements

Voss and Defendant entered into a License Agreement on December 17, 1999, that granted Voss rights to use Defendant's patented technology, know-how, and its trademark. Defendant's patented technology utilizes a proprietary UV curable ink that is removable with an alkali bath solution so the bottles can be reused or redecorated. Voss and Defendant also entered an Ink Purchasing Agreement on December 17, 1999, that required Defendant to sell, and Voss to buy, its UV curable removable ink from

Defendant. As set forth in the Agreements, Voss obtained a bottle decorating machine know as an "RS 150" model machine made by Rosario. The machine was fitted according to Defendant's to decorate Voss' bottles with the removable ink sold by the Defendant.

- 23. The initial term of the Agreements extended until June 30, 2004. Prior to the 2004 expiration date, however, the parties agreed to extend the term of the Agreements until December 31, 2007.
- 24. In 2006, as part of a major expansion of its bottling abilities, and also anticipating the need to either renew its Agreements with Defendant or transition to a new technology, Voss started evaluating new and different bottle labeling solutions in order to learn what new technologies were available and reach an informed decision.
- 25. Defendant was fully aware of Voss' efforts, and took part in these competing as one of several alternative suppliers of decoration technology and ink. Voss and Defendant met in-person in New York City in September 2006 to allow Defendant to present its proposed solutions. At no time did Defendant bring up that Voss' potential choice of competing solutions was in any way impeded by provisions of the Agreement. Defendant's conduct, however, changed dramatically when Defendant learned in April 2007 that Voss had selected a new machine vendor, namely Kammann, as its new printing machine supplier. Upon information and belief, this led Defendant to believe that its chances of becoming the supplier of Voss' new bottle decoration solution had been reduced. On April 12, 2007, after having learned about Voss' decision to use Kammann as its machine supplier, Defendant for the first time makes a reference to "legal issues relating to using the other products".

- 27. Spacio AS (the Norwegian branch of Marabu) has advised Voss that its technology does not violate the intellectual property of any third party, including Defendant's.
- 28. Shortly after Voss informed Defendant on June 29, 2007, of its decision to use Marabu to supply a decoration solution to be used in connection with the Kammann

machines, Defendant repeatedly accused Voss of breaching the Agreements by having decided to purchase its new decorating equipment with UV curing capability.

Alleged Breach, Notice of Termination, and Termination

29. The Agreements do NOT provide for automatic termination for a material breach. Instead, the Agreements have a notice and cure provision under which the party allegedly in breach of the agreement is given notice of the breach, and if the breach is cured within 20-days then there is no termination. Article 10.03 of the License Agreement provides in relevant part:

> If a party is in breach, the non-breaching party shall give the breaching party written notice specifying the nature of the breach. The breaching party, within twenty (20) days of receipt of such notice, shall remedy the breach specified therein and provide evidence of such remedy, including, without limitation, a certification from the Responsible Officer of the breaching party, within such twenty (20) day period or, if the breaching party fails to remedy such breach in full, the non-breaching party may terminate the Term of this Agreement without further notice, provided that if such breach is curable but cannot, with the exercise of the breaching party's best efforts, be cured within such twenty (20) period, the breaching party shall notify the non-breaching party thereof in writing, including, without limitation, a specific action plan and timetable for curing such breach, within such twenty (20) day period, and provided further that the breaching party exercises best efforts to cure such breach, such breach will not constitute grounds for termination of the term of this Agreement so long as it is cured within sixty (60) days of such notice of breach from the non-breaching party.

30. On July 5, 2007, almost a year after Voss began comparing new systems, including the system offered by the Defendant for labeling its products with its existing system and only after it became clear to Defendant that Voss would not be renewing its Agreements past the December 31, 2007 expiration date, Defendant sent a purported Termination Notice. The Notice states in relevant part that:

Voss has provided RevTech with written notification that Voss will begin to use ultra-violet (UV) ink provided by another company on new equipment purchased from Kammann Machines which will be installed in September. We have further been informed that Kammann has been conducting tests with a variety of UV inks on behalf of Voss. In addition, Revtech received very negative communication from Kammann Machines due to a conversation that occurred with Mr. Stian Eilbert during which Confidential Information was disclosed to Kammann. This has had a significant negative impact on Revtech which has been making recent overtures in an attempt to create a stronger relationship with Kammann which is critical to Revtech's future strategy. This objective was being very successfully accomplished until Mr. Eilberts conversation. Documentation exists that clearly prove all the above actions.

The above actions are in clear material breach of Articles 2.02(b), (f), (h) and (i); 2.03, 2.04, 8.01(c) and Article 11.01 of the License Agreement. Among many other violations, it would be impossible for Voss to decorate glass containers without utilizing Know-How as described in the Agreement.

- 31. The following day, on July 6, 2007, Defendant sent another letter in which it reveals its true intention to use the threat of termination to prevent Voss from using any other suppliers' technology and thereby force Voss to continue doing business with Defendant. Defendant states that it "wants to make clear that [Voss'] negotiation for or purchase of any decorating equipment with UV capability is clear indication of intent to continue Breach of the Agreements." Defendant's July 6, 2007 letter is incorporated by reference.
- 32. Voss responded on July 18, 2007, by providing a point-by-point response under the specific Articles of the License Agreement to each of Defendant's alleged breaches, thereby fully demonstrating that no grounds for termination exists. In particular, the Agreements do not provide that Voss cannot use another technology or vendor for its products in the future. Moreover, Voss responded to Defendant's flawed logic:

In the Termination Letter, it is claimed that "it would be impossible for Voss to decorate glass containers without utilizing Know-How as described in the Agreement." We assume that this only refers to decoration by use of ink, not by use of altogether different technologies, for example by way of plastic sticker or otherwise. The License Agreement is a fixed term agreement which expires on 31 December 2007. We are unaware of any provision in the License Agreement which precludes that Voss (before or) after such expiration date decorates glass bottles using technology or ink independently developed by any third party, provided that such decoration is not performed on the RevTech retrofitted Rosario Machine. The effect of such claim as referred above seems to be that Voss should it wish to continue selling products in decorated glass bottles (before or) after the expiration date, for perpetuity would be contractually committed to do so using only RevTech ink and technology. This is an understanding of the License Agreement which we do not share.

We would also like to point out that Voss' know-how about any ink and related technology or hardware is limited to the use of such products as instructed by the relevant supplier. Voss' know-how about products supplied by RevTech consists of no more than how to refill ink and fizz kits, how to operate the retro-fitted Rosario printer and how to perform basic adjustments and repairs on such machine.

As stated above, we reject that any act of Voss related to the sourcing of additional decoration equipment and thereto related technology constitutes a breach of the terms of the License Agreement as described in the Termination Letter, Voss intends to continue its use of RevTech ink and technology within the terms of the License Agreement until its expiration. We expect that ink already paid for will be delivered as intended, and we expect any further orders for same to be fulfilled on a timely and orderly basis.

33. Then by letter dated August 3, 2007, without even acknowledging any of the issues related to the alleged breach addressed by Voss, counsel for Defendant informed Voss that "since Voss has failed to timely cure its default under the License Agreement, the License Agreement has been terminated effective July 25, 2007. In light of the fact [that] Voss no longer has any rights with respect to the Licensed Process, the Licensed Patent Rights, the Licensed Know-How, the Licensed Marks and/or the Ink (all defined in the License Agreement), demand is hereby made as follows: 1. That Voss

- 34. Voss did not reveal any of Defendant's Confidential Information to Kammann, did not make any disparaging or unflattering comments about Defendant to Kammann, and is not responsible for any revelation of Confidential Information to Kammann by Defendant during Defendant's direct negotiation with Kammann.
- 35. The Agreements do not provide that Voss' contracting to use a different bottle labeling technology and ink supplier is a breach of the agreement.
- 36. The Agreements do not provide for early termination in the event of non-renewal of the Agreements.
- 37. The Agreements do not provide that they are perpetual and must be renewed.
 - 38. The Agreements are effective through December 31, 2007, at the earliest.
- 39. The Defendant's licensed process, licensed patent rights, licensed know how and licensed ink does not cover the Kammann's machines or Marabu products, process, know-how, or new ink.
- 40. Defendants have asserted that Voss and its distributors/customers infringed two patents, U.S. Patent No. 6,093,455 entitled "Method and Composition for decorating glass" and U.S. Patent No. 6,136,382 entitled "Method and Compositions for decorating vitreous articles with radiation curable inks having improved adhesion and durability." The Patents are owned by Deco Patents.

41. RevTech, on behalf of Deco Patents, has also asserted that Voss' new machines and processes infringe its patent rights.

First Cause of Action (Declaration of Patent Noninfringement)

- 42. The allegations in Paragraphs 1 through 41 are incorporated by reference herein.
- 43. A case of actual controversy exists between Voss and Defendants.

 Defendants have accused Voss of infringing United States Patent No. 6,093,455 (the "455 Patent") and United States Patent No. 6,136,382 (the "382 Patent").
 - 44. Voss denies that it infringes the '455 Patent and the '382 Patent.
- 45. Accordingly, Voss seeks a declaration of noninfringement of the '455 Patent and the '382 Patent.

Second Cause of Action (Declaration of Patent Invalidity)

- 46. The allegations in Paragraphs 1 through 41 are incorporated by reference herein.
- 47. Voss also alleges that the '455 Patent and the '382 Patent are invalid for failing to comply with the statutory requirements of Sections 102, 103, and 112 of Title 35 of the United States Code.

Third Cause of Action (Declaration of VOSS' Contractual Rights)

- 48. The allegations in Paragraphs 1 through 41 are incorporated by reference herein.
 - 49. Defendants have asserted the Agreements terminated as of July 25, 2007.

- 50. Voss has fully performed all of its duties and obligations under the Agreements.
 - 51. Voss has not materially breached the Agreements.
 - 52. Voss denies Defendants' allegation that it breached the Agreements.
- 53. Voss seeks a declaration of its rights under the Agreements along with a determination that the Agreements were not breached and were not properly terminated.
- 54. Voss seeks a declaration that the licensed process, licensed patent rights, licensed know how and licensed ink does not cover the Kammann machines or Marabu products, process, know-how, or new ink.

Fourth Cause of Action (Tortious Interference with Business Relations)

- 55. The allegations in Paragraphs 1 through 41 are incorporated by reference herein.
- 56. On or about September 12, 2007, Defendant RevTech joined twenty-two of Voss' distributors and customers as counterclaim defendants. The legal theory asserted against those parties was alleged patent and trademark infringement, for distributing Voss products that allegedly were no longer licensed.
- RevTech has embarked on a series of intentional and purposeful actions 57. and maneuvers designed solely for the purpose of interfering with Voss' existing and prospective business relationships with its customers/distributors. RevTech is aware of the contracts and/or business relationships between Voss and its customers/distributors. On information and belief, Deco Patents intends to assert the same claims, for the same reasons.

- 58. RevTech's actions, which include but are not limited to direct contacts with Voss customers/distributors in an attempt to cause a disruption of the orderly flow of business between Voss and its customers/distributors, settlement demands to Voss' customers/distributors conditioned upon immediate cessation of their business relations with Voss, and threats to otherwise impose burdensome discovery on those customers/distributors, constitute unlawful and intentional interference with Voss' present and prospective business relations, and malicious, extreme and unfair acts of intimidation, threats, pressure and unfounded litigation against Voss' customers and distributors for an improper purpose, without privilege or justification.
- 59. On information and belief, Defendants have no good faith basis to assert that any patent right has been infringed by the new machines and processes in place at Voss because Defendants have been advised that the new process and methods do not infringe any of Defendants' patents, and Defendants have not performed any due diligence or pre-suit infringement analysis and have no facts, information or reasonable belief to the contrary.
- 60. Voss has sustained and will sustain economic harm as a result of the Defendants' unlawful and non-privileged actions, for which Voss is entitled to damages against Defendants.
- 61. If Defendants are not enjoined from continuing to engage in conduct designed to interfere with Voss' existing and prospective business relationships, Voss will continue to sustain harm that cannot be fully or adequately measured in or compensated by an award of damages.

Fifth Cause of Action (Declaration of Non-Infringement of Defendant's Registered Mark)

- 62. The allegations in Paragraphs 1 through 41 are incorporated by reference herein.
- 63. Defendants have accused Voss of infringing their rights under United States' trademark registration No. 2453376 for the word and design mark "EG" (the "Mark").
 - 64. Voss denies that it infringes the Mark.
 - 65. Accordingly, Voss seeks a declaration of non-infringement of the Mark.

Prayer For Relief

WHEREFORE, Voss prays for:

- 1. A judgment declaring that the '455 Patent and the '382 Patent are not infringed;
- 2. A judgment declaring that the '455 Patent and the '382 Patent are invalid and unenforceable;
- 3. A judgment that Voss has not breached the License Agreement and the Ink Purchase Agreement:
 - 4. A judgment that the Mark is not infringed;
- 5. A judgment that the License Agreement and Ink Purchase Agreement are valid, subsisting, and not terminated until December 31, 2007;
- 6. A judgment that the Defendant's licensed process, licensed patent rights, licensed know how and licensed ink does not cover the Kammann machines or Marabu products, process, know-how, or new ink;

- 7. A judgment against Defendants for damages sustained as a result of their improper and unlawful interference with Voss' business relationships;
- 8. An injunction against Defendants prohibiting Defendants from engaging in acts that are designed to interfere with Voss' business relationships, including an injunction precluding any contact with Voss' customers/distributors except through counsel;
 - 9. Its costs and disbursements herein;
- 10. An order declaring this an exceptional case and awarding Voss its attorneys fees and costs; and,
 - 11. Such other and further relief as this Court deems necessary and just.

Demand for Jury Trial

Pursuant to Rule 38(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs hereby demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable as a matter of right.

Dated: January 7, 2008

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint for Declaratory Judgment of Patent Invalidity and Non-Infringement, For Declaration of Trademark Non-Infringement, For Declaration of Rights Under License Agreement and For Tortious Interference With Business Relations is being served upon the following counsel of record by electronic mail on January 14, 2008.

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